

Message Text

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O 170014Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 229765

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, TW

SUBJECT: ROC'S NUCLEAR INTENTIONS

REF: TAIPEI 6272

1. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO CALL ON FONMIN SHEN AT EARLIEST
OPPORTUNITY TO ASSURE THAT SUBSTANCE OF PLANNED ROC
WRITTEN MEMORANDUM COMPREHENSIVELY COVERS ASSURANCES
PROVIDED TO YOU BY PREMIER.

2. YOU SHOULD INFORM SHEN US WELCOMES PREMIER'S SEPTEMBER
14 PRESENTATION ON NUCLEAR ISSUES AND IS PARTICULARLY
PLEASED WITH ROC'S INTENTION TO PROVIDE WRITTEN MEMORANDUM
SETTING FORTH NON-PROLIFERATION COMMITMENT. IN INTEREST

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OF CLARITY, US BELIEVES THAT MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE BROADENED

TO PROVIDE EXPLICIT ASSURANCE THAT ROC WILL NOT SEEK TO DEVELOP A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICE.

3. TO ASSURE OUTCOME WHICH IS IN BEST INTERESTS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS, USG FURTHER REQUESTS THAT MEMORANDUM ALSO INCLUDE PREMIER'S PLEDGE THAT ALL ROC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO REPROCESSING WILL BE TERMINATED. (FYI. WE DESIRE THIS FORMULATION RATHER THAN THE MORE RESTRICTIVE REFERENCE TO "REPROCESSING RESEARCH" ACTUALLY USED BY THE PREMIER.)

YOU MAY INFORM SHEN THIS IN EFFECT CONSTITUTES USG ACCEPTANCE OF PREMIER'S OFFER TO TERMINATE INER LABORATORY REPROCESSING PROJECT AS WELL AS ANY OTHER PLANNED REPROCESSING ACTIVITIES.

4. YOU SHOULD TELL SHEN THAT IN LIGHT OF CONSIDERABLE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN ROC NUCLEAR MATTERS WHICH IS REFLECTED IN SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER 22 HEARING ON SUBJECT, WE FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO INFORM CONGRESS ON THAT OCCASION OF SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ROC UNDERTAKING AND THAT IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY ADVANTAGEOUS IF ROC MEMORANDUM WERE IN HAND AHEAD OF TIME. YOU SHOULD TELL HIM THAT, IN ANY CASE, IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE US-ROC NUCLEAR RELATIONSHIP, THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE EXCHANGE WILL HAVE TO BE MADE KNOWN TO CONGRESS AND THAT, AT LEAST IN BROAD OUTLINE, IT MAY WELL BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. YOU SHOULD STATE WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF ROC WISHED TO RELEASE THE MEMORANDUM TO THE PUBLIC.

5. YOU MAY ALSO INFORM SHEN THAT WE ARE CONSIDERING ROC OFFER FOR U.S. RESIDENT EXPERTS TO HAVE COMPLETE ACCESS TO ALL ROC NUCLEAR FACILITIES. HABIB

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